THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) to (d) Do not arise.

Ascertaining pesticide level in soft drinks

†3124. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Central Government have urged all the State Governments to ascertain the quantity of pesticides in the Pepsi and Coca Cola drinks;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the States from which testing results have been received; and

(c) the details of these results and the steps taken by Government keeping in view of these results?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) For monitoring the level of pesticides in carbonated water being sold in the country the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has already issued directions to all State Governments and Central Food Laboratories to take samples of cabronated water as well as the water used in the manufacture of carbonated water for checking the quality paramaters including pesticide residues.

(b) and (c) As per information received from 14 State Governments, 213 samples have been lifted so far and have been sent for testing and analysis to the designated laboratories. As per the report received from the State of Gujarat, out of 28 samples analysed by them, none of the samples have shown presence of any of the pesticides.

Social rights of HIV/AIDS infected people

3125. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the HIV/AIDS infected people in our country are deprived of basic social rights;

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, what are the steps taken by Government in this regard; and

(c) the details of rehabilitation programme for them under taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) and (b) No, Sir. Does not arise.

(c) Under National AIDS Control Programme-ll, grants are provided to NGOs through State AIDS Control Societies for setting up low cost Community Care Centers (10 bedded) for HIV/AIDS affected persons including terminally ill AIDS cases. The centres provided a range of services that include short term shelter, nutritional care & support, nursing care, medicine for opportunistic infections, palliative care, peer counseling etc. AIDS cases are referred from Community Care Centres to Anti Retroviral Treatment Centres for clinical management of infections. As on date 122 Community Care Centres and 54 ART Centres are functioning in the country.

Pending Medical Bills

3126. SHRI HARISH RAWAT: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of medical bills duly supported with necessary required documents received from the CGHS beneficiaries from 1st January, 2003 till date;

(b) the number of cases pending for payment;

(c) the reasons for delay for payments to them; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) Data pertaining to medical bills in respect of serving Central Government employees covered under CGHS scheme are marinated by respective Ministries/Department. So far as pensioners CGHS beneficiaries are concerned as per information available 1,11,270 medical reimbursement claims were received by CGHS from 1.1.2003 till date.

(b) to (d) 3,345 medical reimbursement claims of CGHS pensioners beneficiaries are pending for payment. The pendency is due to the fact that certain procedure has to be followed to process the bill for payment